

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES  
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner  
Jeff Regnart, Director*



---

Contact:  
Travis Elison, Area Management Biologist  
Aaron Tiernan, Asst. Area Management Biologist

Kuskokwim Area Office  
P.O. Box 1467  
Bethel, AK 99559

Phone: (907) 543-2433  
Toll Free: 855-933-2433  
Fax: (907) 543-2021

Date Issued: August 17, 2013  
Time: 10:30 a.m.

**2013 Kuskokwim Bay Salmon Fishery News Release 18  
Districts 4 and 5 to Open to Commercial Salmon Fishing**

This is an announcement from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at Bethel for commercial salmon fishermen in the Kuskokwim Area.

**District 4, Quinhagak**

**District 4, Quinhagak, will open to commercial salmon fishing for 12 hours from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Monday, August 19, 2013.**

Preliminary harvest during the August 16 commercial period was 4 king; 26 sockeye; 36 chum; and 3,430 coho salmon. The harvest and catch rates for coho salmon were below average for this date. The removal of the weir began on Friday, August 16. The season total passage through the Kanektok River Weir was 3,569 king; 128,761 sockeye; 43,040 chum; and 3,116 coho salmon.

In District 4 subsistence salmon fishing will be closed 8 hours before, during, and 4 hours after each commercial fishing period.

**District 5, Goodnews Bay**

**District 5, Goodnews Bay, will open to commercial salmon fishing for 12 hours from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Monday, August 19, 2013.**

Preliminary harvest during the August 16 commercial period was 3 king; 144 sockeye; 12 chum; and 3,709 coho salmon. The harvest and catch rates for coho salmon were above average for this date. As of August 8, total passage through the Middle Fork Goodnews River Weir is 1,158 king;

22,939 sockeye; 27,507 chum; and 178 coho salmon. The weir is currently experiencing extremely high water at this time and it is not able to count salmon passage. Salmon passage during this high water period will be estimated post season.

In District 5 subsistence salmon fishing will be closed 8 hours before, during, and 4 hours after each commercial fishing period.

The local processor anticipates adequate processing capacity for these upcoming commercial periods. Fishermen should maintain contact with the buyer to ensure there is adequate processing capacity for their catch.

Fishermen are reminded that they may retain any portion of their catch for personal or subsistence use. Fish retained for personal or subsistence use from a commercial fishery must be reported and recorded in the space provided on an ADF&G fish ticket. Fishermen are also reminded that gillnet gear may not be operated in a manner that obstructs more than one half the width of any waterway. In the intertidal zone this restriction applies at all tide stages. Additionally, gear is restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size and 50 fathoms in length in a single shackle.

The Department will be closely monitoring commercial fishing periods to assess fishery performance and anticipates announcing additional commercial fishing periods as warranted. Further announcements will be made from the Bethel Fish and Game office, on the state web site (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>), and local radio stations. News releases will be faxed to area villages and local fish processing companies.

Commercial fishermen are encouraged to consult Fish and Game regulations prior to beginning commercial fishing operations.

For additional information or questions regarding Districts 4 and 5 and Kuskokwim Area fisheries, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game office in the Bethel at 543-2433 or toll free at 855-933-2433.